

October 2, 2006

The regular meeting of the Town of Franklin Board of Aldermen was held on Monday, October 2, 2006 at 7:00 P.M. in the Town Hall Board Room. Mayor Joe Collins presided. Aldermen Verlin Curtis, Jerry Evans, Billy Mashburn, Carolyn Pattillo, Charles Roper and Bob Scott were present.

Approval of the minutes

Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Pattillo to approve the minutes for the September 5, 2006 meeting with the following corrections: Alderman Scott said all the information was not brought to us by the family and to add to the motion made by Mashburn about notification on allocations to add within one year. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Persons to be heard

Paul Burd said I live at 242 Tennessee View Street. He said we need to have some street maintenance done before winter. He said you did some patch work last year. He said where the mail boxes are located is breaking off. He said we have received a notice from our mail carrier to repair this area or they will stop delivering our mail. He said we are asking for another patching job if the street cannot be finished this year. Mayor Collins said it has been a long process. He said the water and sewer line needs to be replaced before the new paving is done. He said we may be able to go ahead and put some more asphalt. Jay Gibson said we will be working on doing taps on Maple Street while the curb and guttering work is being done for the next two weeks. He said after that we should be able to get started on this project. Mr. Gibson said you could hire a local contractor to do the taps instead of the town crew. Dot Jackson said I have paid town taxes due to somebody else's mistake. She said I have been over paying. Mayor Collins said you were paying inside water rates instead of outside water rates. He said overall you probably were not hurt financially. Mrs. Jackson said I feel I have been treated unfairly by this situation. Mayor Collins said we cannot do an adjustment due to too much time passing. Mrs. Jackson said we have spent a lot of money patching the street. Alderman Scott said as a member of the Street Committee I would like to authorize Jay Gibson to get bids to do the patching. Alderman Mashburn said we would need to contract to do the water and sewer work first. He said it may pay us to do the patch work and wait until spring to do the paving. The Board instructed Jay Gibson to put asphalt around the mail boxes this week.

Ann Van Harlingen said I work with REACH of Macon County. She said since the death of a woman at the Jackson County's REACH we are trying to increase safety at our facilities. She said we may be able to get some matching funds from the state. Ms. Van Harlingen said we need support in changing some state laws. She said I want to come back to the November meeting.

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Departmental reports

Fire Chief Pete Haithcock gave the fire department report. A copy of the report is attached. He said we are ready to advertise for bids on the new truck. He said we are looking into constructing two bays onto the fire building. Alderman Curtis said if we are going to add to the fire building a cost feasibility study needs to be done. Chief Haithcock said we need to adopt a resolution indicating the Franklin Fire and Rescue Department relationship with the Town. **Motion was made by Evans, seconded by Curtis to adopt the Resolution confirming the Franklin Fire and Rescue Department relationship with the Town of Franklin. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy of the resolution is attached.**

Public Works Director Jay Gibson said the contractor has started the curb and guttering work on Maple Street and should be finished in two weeks. He said the four new aerators at the wastewater treatment plant have been installed. Alderman Pattillo said how is the odor problem on Palmer Drive? Mr. Gibson said we have put in the pumps. Alderman Curtis said the odor is a lot better.

Assistant Police Chief Jerry DeHart gave the police department report. A copy of the report is attached. He said Chief Bradley is recovering well from his surgery. He said his first day back to work was today.

Request by Macon County Schools – Terry Bell

Terry Bell said we hooked onto Town's water in May. He said we got our first water bill this month. He said our maintenance crews found that we had a redundant loop that had resulted in town water going into the storage tank. He said we did not know we had such a high usage until we got the bill. Mr. Bell said if the meter had been read monthly, we would have found this problem the first month. Alderman Evans said the fair thing to do is get a full month usage and do an average bill for the past months. Mr. Bell said that would be fair. A copy of the letter is attached. Alderman Mashburn said in the past when treated water went through the meter the customer had to pay for the usage. He said this is not a leak. **Motion was made by Evans, seconded by Pattillo to take a full month usage and do an average bill for the past months with the understanding this is an isolated situation and not a change in the Town's policy. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Zoning requests regarding The Sanctuary Village – Tim Ryan

Mike Decker said Tim Ryan has submitted proposed Traditional Neighborhood overlay regulations. He wants to use these regulations for his development within his twenty-three acre project. He said the Board must first consider the text amendments to the zoning ordinance before considering any rezoning requests. He said the Board's first step is to refer this proposed text change to the Planning Board for a recommendation.

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Motion was made by Pattillo, seconded by Scott to refer the proposed Traditional Neighborhood overlay regulations to the Planning Board for a recommendation. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy of the proposed regulations is attached.

Ratification of poll regarding bid awards for Maple Street improvements

Motion was made by Evans, seconded by Curtis to ratify the poll on September 11, 2006 on granting the bid awards for Maple Street to the following contractors: (1) WNC Paving for the concrete and sidewalk work with a bid of \$169,000.00 and (2) APAC for the resurfacing with a bid of \$37,670.20. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Follow up on collection system inspection

Mike Decker said the Division of Water Quality has mailed a letter indicating their recommendations on the Town's collection system. He said the first recommendation is for the Town to do an updated collection system Capital Improvement Plan prior to December 8, 2006. He said the second recommendation is to do public education on disposing of grease. He said we are working on doing this education. He said the third recommendation is to have a detailed pump station log when inspecting the pump stations. Mr. Decker said we are developing these logs. He said the last recommendation is to do an updated Spill Response Action Plan. A copy of the letter is attached. He said we need to work with the Water/Sewer Committee and Jeff Bishop with McGill Associates on updating our collection system Capital Improvement Plan. The Board agreed to this request. Alderman Scott said we need to have a second water source. Mayor Collins suggested that Alderman Scott, the Water/Sewer Committee, Mike Decker and Jay Gibson meet with Jeff Bishop to discuss this matter.

Request for use of the Jaycee Building

Mike Decker said Debbie Rennhack and Cindy Chipman have requested free use of the Jaycee Building on Thursdays for a weekly Girl Scout troop meeting. A copy of the letter is attached. Alderman Evans said if we allow this group to use the building we will have somebody wanting to use it every night. **Motion was made by Roper, seconded by Evans to table this request. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.**

Consideration of resolution urging the state acquisition of Chimney Rock Park

Motion was made by Scott, seconded by Mashburn to adopt the Resolution Urging the State of North Carolina to acquire Chimney Rock Park. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0. A copy of the resolution is attached.

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Update on Wide Horizon Drive water line extension

Mike Decker said we received a bill from Terry Dalton for the Town's portion of the cost of the water line that was installed along Wide Horizon Drive. He said Mr. Dalton is requesting a payment of \$25,669.99 for the following: (1) \$11,018.00 for hydrants, (2) \$2,005.66 for the difference in the pipe fittings and (3) \$12,646.33 for the difference in the pipe size. A copy of the invoice is attached. Jay Gibson said we only approve water plans that include hydrants. After some discussion, the Board said that the agreement was to pay only for the cost of the upsize of the water line and not for hydrants. The Board approved payment of the invoice with the deduction of the cost of the hydrants in the amount of \$11,018.00.

Update on NCDOT issues

Mike Decker said we have asked the state to look at putting a three way stop at Depot Street and Wayah Street. He said the state has not come to look at the site yet. He said we have no movement on getting a left hand turn signal at the Chamber of Commerce. Alderman Evans said I don't think a three way stop will work. He said we need to offer to pay the difference between the cost of metal poles and wood poles. Mayor Collins said some of the Board needs to go to lunch with the DOT engineers. Alderman Mashburn said it would have more influence if all the Board met with them. The Board agreed to invite the DOT engineers to a catered meal at town hall to discuss these issues.

Consideration of advertising for a town engineer

Mayor Collins said we need to move forward and advertise the job description for a town engineer. Alderman Evans said the person hired needs to be able to do record keeping and also the field work. The Board agreed to advertise the job.

Discussion regarding voluntary annexation policy

Mike Decker said I enclosed a memo on the standards for voluntary annexation. A copy is attached. He said we will be receiving more requests due to the passage of the malt and mixed drink referendum. Alderman Scott said we need to compare the property taxes revenue to what we are required to offer in services such as water, sewer and police when we consider any annexation request. Alderman Mashburn said we need to look at each request individually. Mayor Collins said we need to have objective criteria so we can decide. Alderman Mashburn said we need to discuss each request at the time of the request.

Update on town planner applications, consideration of forming interview committee

Mike Decker said we have thirteen applications for the job. He said I would like to form a committee to interview the candidates. Alderman Curtis, Alderman Evans and Alderman Scott agreed to serve on a committee with Mike Decker to interview the candidates.

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Closed session

The Board went into closed session at 9:03 P.M. to discuss pending litigation and personnel, on motion made by Evans, seconded by Curtis. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

The Board came out of closed session at 9:45 P.M., on motion by Evans, seconded by Curtis. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Additional departmental and committee reports

Mike Decker said Howell Derrick wants the police to do something about jake brakes. The Board took no action.

Alderman Roper said what has been done about the request to pave Janelle Street? Alderman Curtis said I am trying to find a copy of the subdivision.

Water adjustments, tax discoveries and payment of the bills

Water adjustments for September, tax discoveries and payment of the bills were approved on motion made by Mashburn, seconded by Evans. Motion carried. Vote: 6 to 0.

Adjournment

Mayor Collins adjourned the meeting at 9:50 P.M.

Joe Collins, Mayor

Janet A. Anderson, Town Clerk